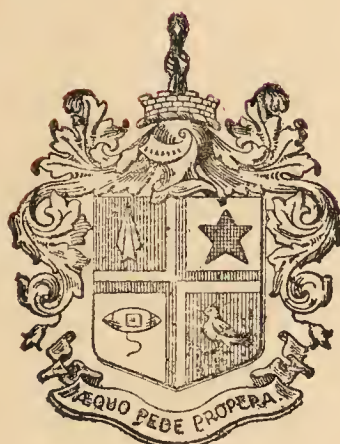


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BOROUGH OF LEIGH

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ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1935

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



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Medical Officer of Health.

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BOROUGH OF LEIGH, 1935.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor T. R. GREENOUGH, J.P.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor W. SEDDON

THE MAYOR (Councillor W. BLACKSHAW, J.P., C.C.)

Ald. W. Collier, J.P.	Coun. H. Gough
„ N. Fairhurst, J.P.	„ T. Haseldine
„ W. Grundy, J.P.	„ J. Horrocks, J.P.
„ W. Higgenbottam, J.P.	„ T. Hourigan
„ W. Hindley, J.P.	„ T. Lowe, J.P.
Coun. T. Battersby	„ J. L. Prescott, J.P.
„ W. R. Boydell, J.P.	„ R. Starkie, J.P.
„ P. Gaskell	

MATERNITY, CHILD WELFARE AND SCHOOL CLINICS COMMITTEE :

Chairman :

Councillor W. KEARNEY

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor J. PARR

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Counc. W. BLACKSHAW, J.P., C.C.)

Ald. J. Ashworth, M.B.E., J.P.	Councillor Hourigan
Alderman N. Fairhurst, J.P.	Councillor Leadbetter
Councillor W. Boydell, J.P.	Councillor T. Lowe, J.P.
Councillor H. Gough	Councillor J. L. Prescott, J.P.
Councillor T. R. Greenough, J.P.	Councillor R. Starkie, J.P.

Co-opted Members :

The Mayoress (Mrs. Blackshaw)

Mrs. Betton

Mr. R. Ratcliffe

Mrs. Lowe

Mr. H. Warburton

STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer :

V. J. WOODWARD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Canal Boats Acts, Rat Officer :

A. N. NICKLIN, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Food Inspection

District Sanitary Inspectors :

J. BLAKELEY, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Food Inspection

H. CLUSKY, Cert. R.S.I.

K. R. WAGENER, Cert., R.S.I.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss A. B. Belyea

Miss L. M. Goulden

Miss A. M. Boydell

Miss C. A. Smith

Mrs. Foster

Miss M. Smith

Senior Clerk : S. CUNNINGHAM.

Clerks : Miss H. MULROONEY — H. BURROW.

Veterinary Surgeon : J. HOLT, M.R.C.V.S.

MATERNITY HOME STAFF :

Matron : Miss S. J. STOREY

Sister : Miss K. FORSHAW

Staff Nurses : Miss B. M. O'GRADY

„ S. P. JOHNSON

„ L. ALLAN

„ A. M. BOARDMAN

REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health FOR 1935

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Leigh.
July, 1936.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Leigh.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the work of the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Services for the year 1935.

The health of the borough has been satisfactory on the whole, although the incidence of infectious disease has been greater than last year. Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia have been more prevalent than in 1934.

The activity of the department in dealing with unfit houses continues and a large amount of re-conditioning of houses by informal action has been carried out.

A diphtheria immunization scheme has been inaugurated during the year.

Fresh legislation in the form of the Shops Act, 1934, and the Housing Act, 1935, has added to the ever-increasing duties of the staff.

The preliminary survey of overcrowding was completed before the end of the year, and the subsequent measurement of houses was done during the early months of 1936. I have thought fit, therefore, to include a report on the completed survey in this number.

I desire to put on record my thanks to the Staff of the department for their unremitting energy during an exceptional year and their happy co-operation at all times, and to the Voluntary Workers at the Welfare Centres for their generous assistance.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Committees for their interest and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. AULAY McLENNAN.

SECTION A

STATISTICS

AND

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

OF THE

BOROUGH



The borough covers an area of 6,359 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population at mid-1935, was 45,240, which shows a slight decline on the estimate of mid-1934, which was 45,420. In this connection it is interesting to note that the population of the Borough at the Census of 1931 was 45,317. The density of population per acre is 7.1.

The number of inhabited houses in the town at the end of 1935, according to the Rate Books was 12,211. The rateable value is £212,486, and the sum represented by a penny rate, £885.

The inhabitants are largely of the working class, coal-mining employing the largest number of any single occupation. This is closely followed by textile workers. Overcrowding exists and adversely affects family life. The returns of the overcrowding survey which included all houses in the borough show that 457 families (3.82 per cent.) are overcrowded according to the standard of the Housing Act, 1935, and 455 families (3.80 per cent.) occupy houses of the minimum size for the size of the family.

Many mothers work in the cotton mills.

The percentage of insured persons unemployed in January, 1936, was 20.2.

VITAL STATISTICS

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births	<div> <div> Legitimate ... 605 .. Illegitimate ... 14 ... </div> </div>	<div> <div>314 ... 7 ...</div> </div>	<div> <div>291 ... 7 ...</div> </div>	<div> <div>Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 13.6</div> </div>
Still-births	<div> <div>Legitimate ... 45 ... Illegitimate ... 3 ...</div> </div>	<div> <div>21 ... 3 ...</div> </div>	<div> <div>24 ... —</div> </div>	<div> <div>Rate per 1000 total (live and still-births) births ... 71</div> </div>
Deaths	... 584 ...	318 ...	266	<div> <div>Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 12.9</div> </div>
Deaths from Puerperal Causes :				Rate per 1000 total
		Deaths		live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis.....		3		
Other puerperal Causes.....		3		
Total.....		6		8.99

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births.....	80
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	82
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	5
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	3

It will be observed that there has occurred a further slight fall in the Birth Rate, the number of births being 619, compared with 636 last year.

The crude death rate is 12.9 per thousand of the estimated resident population, but when this is corrected and adjusted by making allowance for the age and sex distribution of the population, it becomes comparable with the death rate of the country as a whole, or with the death rate of any other area. This standardised death rate, as it is then termed, is 15.3 per 1,000 estimated population for Leigh Borough.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the figures for 1935, for 1934, and the mean of the five years 1930 — 1934.

	Per 1000 estimated population.				Rate of Deaths under 1 yr per 1000 live births
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Respirat'y Tub'cols's	Death Rate from Cancer	
Mean of 5 years — 1930 — 1934.....	14.7	12.2	.55	1.30	75
1934	14.0	11.6	.44	1.14	59
1935	13.6	12.9	.44	1.19	80
Increase or decrease in in 1935 on 5 years Average 1930 - 1934.	—1.1	+0.7	—0.11	0.11	+5
Increase or decrease in 1935 on 1934.	—0.4	+1.3	—	+ 0.05	+21

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1935.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid fever, etc.....	—	—	—
2. Measles.....	2	3	5
3. Scarlet fever.....	—	2	2
4. Whooping Cough.....	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria.....	2	2	4
6. Influenza.....	8	1	9
7. Encephalitis Lethargica.....	2	—	2
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	—	—	—
9. Respiratory tuberculosis.....	12	8	20
10. Other tuberculosis.....	1	—	1
11. Syphilis.....	—	—	—
12. General paralysis of insane, etc.....	1	1	2
13. Cancer.....	31	23	54
14. Diabetes.....	2	5	7
15. Cerebral haemorrhage.....	30	38	68
16. Heart disease.....	55	45	100
17. Aneurysm.....	—	—	—
18. Other circulatory diseases.....	11	13	24
19. Bronchitis.....	22	16	38
20. Pneumonia.....	38	13	51
21. Other respiratory diseases.....	6	4	10
22. Peptic ulcer.....	5	—	5
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years).....	2	1	3
24. Appendicitis.....	2	1	3
25. Cirrhosis of liver	1	—	1
26. Other liver diseases.....	1	6	7
27. Other digestive diseases	6	8	14
28. Nephritis.....	11	11	22
29. Puerperal sepsis.....	—	3	3
30. Other puerperal causes.....	—	3	3
31. Congenital causes, etc.....	18	11	29
32. Senility.....	15	23	38
33. Suicide.....	2	—	2
34. Other violence.....	9	6	15
35. Other defined causes.....	19	17	36
36. Ill defined causes.....	4	2	6
TOTALS	318	266	584

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1935.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 total population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.								Rate per 1,000 Births.		
	Live Births	Still Births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diph- theria.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under 1 Year.	
Leigh	13·6	1·06	15·3	0·00	0·11	0·04	0·00	0·08	0·37	0·06	80
England and Wales	14·7	0·62	11·7	0·00	0·03	0·01	0·04	0·08	0·52	5·7	57
121 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000)	14·8	0·68	11·8	0·00	0·04	0·01	0·04	0·09	0·45	7·9	62
140 Smaller Towns (1931 Adjusted Populations 25,000—50,000)	14·8	0·64	11·2	0·00	0·03	0·01	0·03	0·07	0·41	3·8	55
London	13·3	0·52	11·4	0·00	0·00	0·01	0·04	0·06	0·51	11·2	58

The following table gives the chief causes of death :—

Causes of death	Males	Females	Total	% of total deaths
Heart disease.....	55	45	100	17.1
Cerebral haemorrhage.....	30	38	68	11.6
Cancer.....	31	23	54	9.2
Pneumonia.....	38	13	51	8.7
Bronchitis.....	22	16	38	6.5
Senility	15	23	38	6.5
Congenital Debility.....	18	11	29	4.9
Premature Births.....				
Congenital Malformations.....				
Other circulatory diseases.....	11	13	24	4.0
Nephritis.....	11	11	22	3.7
Respiratory tuberculosis.....	12	8	20	3.4

It will be observed that Heart disease has been responsible for 17.1% of deaths, and Cerebral haemorrhage for 11.6%. Cancer comes third with 9.2%, and Pneumonia fourth with 8.7%. Last year Cancer was responsible for 9.83%, so that this year there is a slight decrease in the percentage of deaths from this disease, although two more deaths are recorded. The deaths from pneumonia numbered only 28 last year with a percentage of 5.3. It will be observed that the mortality from pneumonia among males is practically three times that among females.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age which occurred during the year was 50, giving a rate per 1,000 live births of 80. Of these deaths twenty-nine could be ascribed to congenital causes such as prematurity, congenital weakness and congenital malformations.

Twenty-one (42 per cent) infant deaths occurred during the first week of life, twenty-five (50 per cent.) during the first month of life, and forty-one (82 per cent.) during the first six months. The neo-natal mortality, *i.e.*, the deaths of infants within the first month is precisely half the infant mortality. The following table shows the causes of infant deaths.

Cause of Death	From Birth to 1 month (neo-natal deaths)	From 1 month to 12 months	Total Infant Deaths
1. Gastro-intestinal infective disease (enteritis, diarrhoea, etc.).....	—	3	3
2. Specific Infectious Diseases.....	—	—	—
3. Other Infective Conditions. Broncho-pneumonia, Bronchitis etc.....	2	12	14
4. Non-Infective Conditions.....	3	—	3
5. Congenital Malformations (Spina bifida, meningocele, etc.)	—	7	7
6. Obstetrical Injuries (Subdural haemorrhage, (autopsy)).....	1	—	1
7. Serious Accidents.....	—	—	—
8. Unknown Causes Prematurity	16	—	16
Other conditions.....	3	3	6
	25	25	50

There occurred six maternal deaths during the year, three being ascribed to puerperal sepsis and three to other puerperal causes.

The causes of death were as follows :—

Puerperal sepsis (1 with chronic nephritis).	2
Peritonitis following operation, Albuminuria of pregnancy.	1
Post operative pneumonia, following Caesarian Section and obstructed labour.	1
Obstetric shock.	1
Toxaemia of pregnancy.	1

Two of the deaths occurred in the Isolation Hospital, Astley, three in the Infirmary, Leigh, and one at home. The circumstances of all the deaths were investigated by the Medical Officer and a full report on each sent to the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health.

The total puerperal mortality rate for 1935 for Leigh is 8.99 per 1,000 total (live and still births), and the corresponding figure for England and Wales for 1935 is 3.93 per 1,000 total births.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION
OF
HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE
AREA

1.—PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Office Held</i>
William Aulay	M.B., Ch.B. (Glas.)	Medical Officer of Health
McLennan	D.P.H. (Vict.). Cert. in School Hygiene. Cert. in Factory Hygiene (Vict.)	School Medical Officer. Medical Officer, Maternity Home. Inspector of Midwives.
Vivian J. Woodward	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Liv.)	Assist. Medical Officer of Health. Assist. School Medical Officer.
Miss A. M. Patterson	L.D.S. (Vict.)	School Dental Officer.
Arthur N. Nicklin	Cert. R. San. I. Cert. Meat & Food Inspection	Senior Sanitary Inspector. Inspector under Housing Acts. Inspector of Canal Boats. Rat Officer. Inspec- tor under Shops Acts.
John Blakeley	Cert. S.I.B. Cert. Meat & Food Inspection	District Sanitary Inspector. Inspector under Housing Acts. Inspector under Shops Acts.
Harry Clusky	Cert. S.I.B.	do.
K. R. Wagener	Cert. S.I.B.	do.
Amy B. Belyea	Certified Midwife. Cert. R.S.I.	Health Visitor. School. Nurse. Infant Life Pro- tection Visitor.
Alice M. Boydell	Trained Nurse. Certified Midwife. Cert. Q.V.J.I.	do.
Janet Foster	Trained Nurse. Certified Midwife. Health Visitor's Cert.	do.
Lily M. Goulden	Trained Nurse. Certified Midwife.	do.
Constance A. Smith.	Trained Nurse.	do.
Mary Smith.	Trained Nurse Certified Midwife.	do.

The Clerical Staff consists of :

Sydney Cunningham, *Senior Clerk* ; Helen Mulrooney, *Clerk* ;
Harry Burrow, *Junior Clerk*.

They are engaged jointly in Health, Maternity and Child Welfare,
and School Medical Work.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Office Held</i>
S. J. Storey.	Trained Nurse Certified Midwife.	Matron, Maternity Home.
K. Forshaw.	do.	Sister, Maternity Home.
B. M. O'Grady.	do.	Staff Nurse, Maternity H.
S. P. Johnson.	Trained Nurse. Certified Midwife. Cert. Q.V.J.I.	do.
L. Allan	Trained Nurse Certified Midwife.	do.
A. M. Boardman	do.	do.

SPECIALIST or CONSULTANT OFFICERS.

F. Pearce Sturm.	M.D., M.Ch. (Aberd.)	Aural & Operative Surgeon
K. V. Bailey	M.D., Ch.B. (Vict.) M.R.C.P.	Obstetric & Puerperal Fever Consultant.
James Holt	M.R.C.V.S.	Veterinary Surgeon.
Mrs. Dickinson.	Trained Nurse.	Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia Nurse.

2. LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS.

Bacteriological examinations are done by the Pathological Department of Wigan Royal Infirmary, and the arrangements are satisfactory. A telephonic communication in the case of positive results is made to this department and to the medical practitioner concerned. A report on every examination is made to the Medical Officer.

EXAMINATIONS MADE DURING 1935

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Total</i>
Throat Swab.....	19	171	190
Nasal Swab.....	—	1	1
Blood Test.....	—	2	2
Faeces.....	—	2	2
Vaginal.....	—	1	1

Diphtheria antitoxin and swabs are supplied by the Corporation, and general practitioners are encouraged to keep several swabs in their possession, and at least one phial of antitoxic serum. Stress is laid on the early administration of antiserum even in doubtful cases.

Sputa from cases or suspected cases of tuberculosis is generally sent for examination by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Water samples are submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination to Manchester University Public Health Laboratory.

3.—AMBULANCE ARRANGEMENTS.

(a) For non-infectious and accident cases. Four motor ambulances are provided by the Local Authority and are housed at the Fire Station. Residents are removed free within the borough and to a distance up to 15 miles, if being conveyed to a Hospital, Infirmary or Nursing Home. The service is satisfactory in all respects.

(b) Maternity cases, excepting puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia cases are removed in the motor ambulances of the Corporation.

(c) Infectious cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital, at Astley, by the ambulances of the Leigh Joint Hospital Board. These are housed at the Isolation Hospital. During the year the Joint Hospital Board intimated that a charge of ten shillings would in future be made for the removal of cases of measles, etc., to their homes from Public Institutions and Voluntary Hospitals in the Board's district.

4.—NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) *General*.—This is chiefly provided by the local nursing association which employs three nurses. They do not nurse infectious disease, nor do they act as midwives, nor maternity nurses. They attend patients on the request of the medical practitioners.

(b) *Infectious Disease*.—The Health Nurses give assistance in the home nursing of cases of measles and whooping-cough. Their services are sought by general practitioners in cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, and by frequent visiting and attention and by giving preference to these cases they render signal service. When the nursing of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia is done in the home, the services of a special nurse are employed.

(c) *Maternity*. — Maternity nursing in the home is done by midwives in independent practice. Notice of intention to practise during 1935 was given by 20 midwives, apart from those on the staffs of institutions.

5.—CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) Child Welfare Centres. :

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Day and Hour</i>	<i>In attendance</i>
Stone House St. Helens Rd.	Mon. 2—4 p.m. weekly.	Medical Officer, 3 Health Nurses, Voluntary helper., Mrs. Cunningham.
Coal Pit Lane Westleigh.	Wed. 2—3.30 p.m. Weekly.	Assist. Med. Officer. Nurse M. Smith. (Alternate Wednesdays) Voluntary helper. Mrs. Corrie.
Nangreaves St. Firs Lane.	Wed. 2—3.30 p.m. Weekly.	Assist. Medical Officer, Nurse Goulden (Alternate Wednesdays Voluntary helper. Mrs. Fishwick

Negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of additional clinic accommodation in Chapel Street.

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :—

(i) by children under 1 year of age.....	4110
(ii) by children between 1 year and 5 years.....	752

Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year, and who on the date of their first attendance, were

(i) under 1 year of age.....	407
(ii) between 1 year and 5 years.....	44

Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were

(i) under 1 year of age.....	365
(ii) over 1 year of age.....	380

The percentage, which the number of children under 1 year who first attended at the Centres during the year, bears to the notified live births, is 68.

The Medical Officers held 1,186 infant consultations at the Centres during the year.

Arrangements exist for the supply of dried milk and cow's milk, etc., for infants and children and chocolate milk for expectant and nursing mothers, either free or at part cost in necessitous cases.

The following amounts were distributed during the year.

	<i>Free</i>	<i>Sold</i>
Dried Milk (1 lb. packets).....	7954½	5066½
Chocolate Milk (1 lb. packets).....	2871	224
Emulsion (Cod liver oil).....	665½	189½
Vitamin Malt (various).....	1213	187
Horlick's Malted Milk.....	8	89
Haliverol.....	2	43

(b) *Pre-natal & Post-natal clinics*

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Day and Hour</i>	<i>In attendance</i>
Stone House, St. Helen's Rd.	Mon. 2—4 p.m. Weekly.	Asst. Medical Officer. Nurse Foster.
Maternity Home. Fir's Lane.	Wed. 3.30—5 p.m. Weekly.	Asst. Medical Officer. Matron of Home.

The total number of attendances at both clinics during 1935 was 939 and the total number of women who attended at the clinics during the year was 279. This latter number represents 43.4% of the total registered births.

Total Pre-natal Attendances at Clinics since 1928.

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
No. of women attending.....	40	91	108	97	233	264	228	279
No. of attendances.....	250	185	278	234	290	344	691	939
Rate per 100 births registered	5.3	14.1	15.8	13.0	34.5	40.2	35.8	43.4

PRE-NATAL HOME VISITS BY HEALTH NURSES

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
18	34	42	23	48	52	66	102

(c) *School Clinics*

Minor ailments clinics are held at each of the three centres every morning. The dental Clinic at the Old Town Hall is open daily. An Inspection clinic is held weekly at Stone House. Among special clinics there are an Artificial Sunlight Clinic twice weekly at Stone House, an Ophthalmic Clinic weekly, an Aural Clinic weekly and an Operative Clinic which is held weekly if necessary. During the year an Anti-diphtheria Immunization Clinic was first commenced, and this is held weekly or more often if required.

(d) Tuberculosis Dispensary

The Tuberculosis Service is under the Control of the Lancashire County Council, and the dispensary at 13 Church Street is open on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m., and on the second Thursday of each month at 6.30 p.m. for patients who are working.

(e) Orthopaedic Clinic

The Lancashire County Council Orthopaedic Clinic at Tyldesley is available for use for borough cases. Facilities for prolonged hospital treatment are available at the County Orthopaedic Hospital at Biddulph, and for short period indoor treatment at Ancoats Hospital, Manchester.

6.—HOSPITALS. PUBLIC and VOLUNTARY.

The only voluntary hospital in the borough area is the Leigh Infirmary. Accommodation for children is available, there being 24 beds or cots. Children are also sent to the Manchester Children's Hospital. The Municipal Maternity Home has eighteen beds for Maternity Cases; at Leigh Infirmary there are three beds for Maternity Cases, and six beds are available at the Public Assistance Institution, just outside the borough boundary.

The Local Authority has no arrangement with any hospital, but contributes freely to the Manchester & Salford hospitals and the local infirmary.

7.—MIDWIFERY and MATERNITY SERVICES.

Supervision of Midwives.

This is carried out by the Medical Officers. The number of certified midwives practising in the area of the Authority during the year was 33. Seven midwives who are also state registered nurses are employed by the Corporation at the Maternity Home. No midwives are subsidised by the authority, and none are employed by voluntary associations. Six other midwives were employed at the Leigh Infirmary. The remainder (viz.: twenty) were midwives in independent domiciliary practice, only one of these being a state registered nurse.

The total number of cases attended by Midwives during the year was 700. In 531 cases they acted as midwives, and in 169 they acted as Maternity Nurses under the charge of a medical practitioner.

Under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, medical help was sent for by midwives in 213 cases, and the following table shows the respective categories under which the assistance of a medical practitioner was sought.

Pregnancy.....	43
Labour.....	100
Lying in.....	10
Miscarriage	26
Of the child.....	34
	<hr/>
	213
	<hr/>

During 1934 medical help was summoned on 237 occasions.

The following table gives the particulars of attendance at confinements during the year 1935. It will be observed that the total number of confinements which took place in the borough area exceeds the number of births registered and this is largely due to the fact that many women from outside areas come into the Maternity Home for the event.

Confinement conducted by :

Private medical practitioners and institutional medical Officers (Maternity nurses present)	78	}	169
Private medical practitioners in Firs Maternity Home (midwives acting as Maternity nurses)	91		
(The above instances do not include cases where a midwife seeks aid on a Medical Help form)			
Midwives in Maternity Home.....	177	}	531
Midwives in independent practice.....	354		
		<hr/>	
TOTAL	700	<hr/>	

Number of confinements attended by midwives in private practice.....	354
Number of Medical Aid Calls from these.....	165
Percentage of Calls to these confinements.....	46.6
Percentage of Calls to total confinements.....	23.5

There are two pre-natal and post-natal clinics, one at Stone House, and the other at the Maternity Home. The Clinics are held weekly, and are conducted by the Assistant Medical Officer. The clinic at the Maternity Home is for those mothers who have elected to be confined by the Staff Midwives in the Home. Those who have engaged a medical practitioner for their confinement receive pre-natal attention from him unless he specifically delegates it to the Clinic. Adequate pre-natal care is a condition of admission to the Home. Facilities are given to medical practitioners to carry out their own pre-natal work.

The clinic at Stone House is slowly increasing in popularity, and mothers are coming gradually to realize the advantages of pre-natal supervision. Midwives bring cases to the clinic, and it is gratifying to note that this practice is increasing. In cases attending the clinic which are booked midwives' cases, the midwife is immediately informed of any abnormality discovered.

The same remark applies to patients who have engaged a medical practitioner to conduct the confinement. Mothers who do not attend on the next appointed day are immediately visited to discover the cause of absence from the clinic.

Post-natal examination is done in a few cases. Difficulty is experienced in persuading the mother of the necessity of a post-natal overhaul, since so many have come to regard morbidities following confinement almost as normalities.

Dental advice and treatment are available for nursing and expectant mothers who attend at the Municipal Pre-natal Clinics, and they are referred to the School Dental Officer by the Medical Officers. Treatment is free and this includes extractions under nitrous oxide gas.

Artificial Sunlight treatment is also available for expectant and nursing mothers in need of such treatment.

Expectant and nursing mothers may also obtain fresh milk (one pint per day), dried milk and chocolate milk (one lb. per week) at reduced charges or free according to the family income.

A panel of recommended women is kept for whose services as "Home Helps" application can be made. The number of women on the list is nine. No application for their services was received during the year.

A scheme for the supply of sterilized maternity outfits either free or at reduced charges has been in operation since 1931. Distribution is made from the Health department on the recommendation of the midwives who are supplied with forms for the purpose. Periodical bacteriological examinations of the outfits have proved them satisfactory. 38 outfits were supplied during 1935.

A scheme whereby midwives are compensated for the loss of a case which has been "booked" by them is in operation. If on the advice of a medical practitioner hospital treatment is advised for the patient, the midwife may claim compensation which varies according to the services given by her, the maximum fee being ten shillings per case.

The following table shows the work of the Pre-natal Clinics during 1935.

	<i>Stone House</i>	<i>The Firs</i>	<i>Totals</i>
No. of women attending	83	196	} 279
Total attendances	241	698	

Average No. of attendances per session :—

New cases.....	1.6	4.1
All women.....	5.6	14.5

Average period of pregnancy

at first visit.....	26.3 weeks	20 weeks
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No. and nature of abnormalities detected :—

Albuminuria.....	1	Albuminuria	4
Anaemia.....	7	Exophthalmic	
Breach presentation.....	1	goitre.....	1
Coccydynia.....	1	Hernia.....	1
Bronchitis.....	6	Hydramnios.....	1
Dental caries.....	18	Scabies.....	1
Dyspepsia.....	5	Small pelvis.....	1
Exophthalmic goitre.....	1	Urticaria.....	1
Hernia.....	1	V.D.H.....	1
Haemorrhoids.....	1		
Incontinence.....	1		
Otitis media.....	2		
Malnutrition.....	10		
Pyorrhoea.....	3		
Small pelvis.....	2		
Transverse lie.....	2		
Varicose veins.....	4		
V.D.H.....	1		
Vomiting.....	1		

No. of women referred on account
of abnormalities to :

Consultant.....	3	Nil
V.D. Officer.....	1	Nil
Tuberculosis Officer.....	Nil	Nil
General Practitioner.....	4	2
Special Obstetric Institution...	1	1
General Hospital.....	4	2
Public Assistance Institution..	2	Nil
Dental Surgeon.....	16	Nil

MATERNITY HOME

The following are the statistics for the Home for the year 1935.
There are 18 lying-in beds, 2 labour rooms, and 2 isolation rooms in the
Home :

No. of

Patients admitted.....	268
Live births.....	254
Still births.....	9
Total births.....	263

No. of cases notified as :

(a) Puerperal Fever.....	nil
(b) Puerperal Pyrexia.....	4
(c) Pemphigus Neonatorum.....	nil
(d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	2
Maternal deaths.....	nil
Abortions.....	1
Normal deliveries.....	203
Abnormal deliveries :.....	60
Inductions.....	2
Versions.....	nil
Instrumental deliveries.....	60
Craniotomies.....	nil
Caesarian section.....	nil

No. of cases of :

Albuminuria	4
Eclampsia.....	nil
Placenta Praevia.....	nil
Acute Partum Haemorrhage.....	1
Post Partum Haemorrhage.....	1

Other abnormalities :

Transverse lie.....	1
Unreduced Occipito posterior positions.....	1
Face presentations.....	nil
Funis presentation.....	1
Hydramnios.....	1
Breech Presentation.....	1

No. of foetal deaths :

(a) Stillborn :

Malnutrition in utero.....	1
Premature.....	1
Instrumental delivery.....	4
Funis presentation.....	1
Breech presentation.....	1
Macerated anencephalic.....	1

(b) Within 10 days of birth :

Malformation and feebleness.....	1
Accidental Pneumonia.....	1
Asphyxia Neonatorum.....	1
Insufflation Pneumonia.....	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	1
Prematurity.....	2
Transferred to Leigh Infirmary for Caesarean Section...	4
Transferred to Leigh Infirmary for other treatment.....	3

It will be observed that twelve more cases passed through the Home this year, as compared with 1934, and its popularity is steadily increasing. During 1935 a Dr. Minnitt's Gas-Air Analgesia apparatus was purchased. This apparatus is designed for the administration by the patient herself, of a mixture of nitrous oxide gas and air. It has been very successfully tried out in maternity cases, and it does not involve any danger to mother or child. It appears to be a great advance in the endeavour to produce insensibility to the pain of childbirth, and it does so without loss of consciousness, and without interference with the progress of the labour. It is capable of use by any trained midwife, and at the Maternity Home, patients, matron, and nurses have been enthusiastic over the wonderful results obtained.

Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.

Full facilities are available to medical practitioners for dealing with these conditions. A Puerperal Fever consultant, Dr. K. Vernon Bailey is available, and requests for his services are made through the Medical

Officer. Bacteriological examination of material can be arranged for. If hospital treatment is required, accommodation is available at the Isolation Hospital, Astley. In other cases the services of a trained nurse can be had for home treatment.

Dr. K. Vernon Bailey of Manchester was also appointed Consultant Obstetrician in 1934, and he attends at the patient's home on a request being made by the practitioner in charge to the Medical Officer. Pre-natal cases who can travel are referred to his consulting rooms in Manchester.

An investigation of all cases of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia is made by the medical and nursing staff of the department.

The following table shows the incidence of these puerperal conditions since 1926.

	1926	'27	'28	'29	'30	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35
Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia from										
(1) General practitioners.....	4	6	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2
(2) Institutions.....	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	1	—	4
Notification of Puerperal Fever from :										
(1) General practitioners.....	1	1	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	—
(2) Institutions.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
Number of Puerperal Sepsis deaths.....	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Number of deaths from other causes.....	1	7	3	3	4	1	4	1	1	3
Total puerperal deaths.....	4	7	5	3	5	1	4	1	1	6

8.—INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN

Particulars of this will be found under the heading "Hospitals". Apart from that there is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children.

9.—HEALTH VISITORS.

The Health Nurses made 4,740 home visits to infants, and pre-school children during the year compared with 3,235 during 1934. Of these visits 2,597 were to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. The following is a summary of their work.

Primary Visits	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{under 1 year.....} \quad 637 \\ \text{over 1 year.....} \quad 21 \end{array} \right\} 658$
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Re-visits	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{under 1 year.....1506} \\ \text{over 1 year.....2576} \end{array} \right\}$	4082
Expectant Mothers.....		102
Still-birth investigations.....		35
Infant death investigations.....		55
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia — visits.....		7
Ophthalmia neonatorum — visits.....		127
Interviews.....		687
Miscellaneous Visits.....		673

10.—INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The Health Nurses have all been appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors, and immediately notify any case or suspected case of the receiving of infants for reward which comes to their notice. In the course of their home visiting enquiries are made and cases followed up if necessary.

11.—ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

By arrangement with the Lancashire County Council the facilities available for the orthopaedic treatment of school children also extend to infants and pre-school children. Five cases have received treatment.

12.—ORTHOPTIC TREATMENT.

The facilities granted to the Education Committee by the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital for the treatment of squint in school children, are also available for pre-school children, and 3 children under school age have been referred for treatment during 1935.

13.—PRIVATE MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

No private maternity or nursing homes exist in the borough, and no applications for registration have been made.

It will be obvious that the entire scheme which embraces these numerous subsidiary component parts must be one of the most comprehensive maternity and child welfare services in being, and it has been gradually built up and welded into its entirety. It is to be deplored that the number of maternal deaths has increased to six during 1935, the numbers for 1933 and 1934 having been only one in each year. However, there is some little consolation in the fact that our maternal mortality rate is not consistently high, in fact, it has been quite the reverse, and the high-rate for 1935 is not statistically significant.

SECTION C

SANITARY
CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE
AREA

1.—WATER SUPPLY.

This is derived from the Liverpool Corporation's Water Works at Rivington. There is a service reservoir at Westhoughton which can hold one day's supply. The water is satisfactory in quality and in quantity. A recent analysis revealed the fact that its action on lead over a period of 24 hours was to dissolve .09 parts per 100,000 parts, and its lead content nil. No bacteriological examination of the piped supply was made during the year.

Some farms in the Landside area which derive their supply from wells, experienced an insufficiency during the dry spell. The water from some of these wells has been examined with the following results.

WELL WATER

Result of Bacteriological Examination

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>Result of Examination</i>
1.	Drawn by pump from tank.	Bacilli Coli were found in 100 c.c. and none in 10 c.c. "The total counts are very high, but there is no evidence of excessive pollution with excretal matter. There appears to be no present reason why the water should not be used for domestic purposes."
2.	Pump in Kitchen drawing from well in front of house.	Bacilli Coli were found in 1 c.c. and none in 1/10 c.c. "The Bacterial count is excessive and the Bacilli Coli counts are also very high. The water cannot be considered satisfactory for drinking purposes."
3.	Well behind house.	Bacilli Coli were found in 1 c.c. and none in 1/10 c.c. "The total counts are very high and the presence of Bacilli Coli in 1 c.c. of the sample is evidence of heavy pollution with excretal matter. The water cannot be considered suitable for drinking purposes."
4.	Well Water.	Bacilli Coli were found in 1 c.c. and none in 1/10 c.c. "The total counts and the Bacilli Coli counts are very high. The water is polluted with excretal matter and can hardly be considered suitable for drinking purposes."

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>Result of Examination</i>
5.	Pump outside house.	Bacilli Coli were found in 1 c.c. and none in 1/10 c.c. “The total counts are excessive and the Bacilli Coli count is also very high. The water is polluted with excretal matter and can hardly be considered fit for drinking and domestic purposes.”

RESULT OF CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

(Numerical Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

	Sample No.				
	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Colour</i>	<i>Masked by turbidity</i>	<i>Yellow Green</i>	<i>Masked by turbidity</i>	<i>Masked by turbidity</i>	<i>Yellow Green</i>
Turbidity.....	Slight	Slight	Slight	Marked	Slight
Smell.....	None	None	None	None	None
Oxygen Absorbed (4 hours at 27° c).	0.08	0.254	0.107	0.178	0.136
Free and Saline Ammonia (as NH ₃)	0.113	0.0048	0.003	0.0024	0.0036
Albuminoid Ammonia (as NH ₃)	0.0096	0.150	0.009	0.4006	0.0224
Nitrous Nitrogen (as NH ₃)	Nil	Marked	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen (as NH ₃).	0.235	0.4375	0.680	0.550	3.4
Chlorides (as Cl)	1.3	17.3	6.9	3.1	10.2
	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(a)
Hardness {	Temporary	0.5	17.0	15.5	15.5
	Permanent	4.8	79.0	23.5	32.0
	Total	5.3	96.0	39.0	47.0
Reaction, pH.	6.5	7.5	8.0	8.0	7.0—7.5
Action on Lead (24 hours)	2.1	0.22	0.2	0.16	0.18
Metals.	Lead —				
	Trace	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Clarke's Method.

(b) Hehner's Method.

Note :— Sample No. 6 is from the same source as sample No. 1									
”	”	”	7	”	”	”	”	”	2
”	”	”	8	”	”	”	”	”	3
”	”	”	9	”	”	”	”	”	4
”	”	”	10	”	”	”	”	”	5

2.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The relatively flat nature of the district makes the sewerage problem a difficult one. Only the minimum permissible amount of fall can be given to the sewers and in exceptional downfalls of rain there is occasionally in parts of the town a failure on the part of the sewers, with consequent flooding. Mining subsidence also affects the sewerage system. The sewage is treated by the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewerage Board, by means of bacterial filter beds. The effluent is satisfactory.

3.—RIVERS AND STREAMS

The district is drained by the river Glaze and its tributaries, all running in a southerly direction and emptying into the Manchester Ship Canal. All the streams are very tortuous, and the water slow running. Coal-mining subsidence has further interfered with the flow. The effect of the work of straightening and deepening the streams carried out during the last two years by the Drainage Board and continued by the South Lancashire Rivers Catchment Board, is already apparent in the diminution of flooding of the low-lying parts.

The condition of the streams is carefully watched and any pollution is brought to the notice of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee. No such occasion has arisen during the year.

4.—CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Water closets have now been provided to all houses where a water-supply and sewer exist. There are still a large number of waste water closets in the borough. However, 40 of these were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

Fresh water closets.....	11,386
Waste Water Closets.....	794
Privies (No water supply nor sewer).....	72
Pail closets (No water supply nor sewer)	9

Conversions.		During 1935	During 1930-34
Number of privy closets	To fresh W.C.'s.....	—	4
	To waste W.C.'s.....	—	—
	To pails, etc.....	—	2
Number of pail closets.	To fresh W.C.'s.....	—	—
	To waste W.C.'s.....	—	—
Number of waste W.C.'s to fresh W.C.'s.....		40	15
Number of houses, at which movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles.....		400	5649

5.—PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Street scavenging, and the collection and disposal of house refuse are undertaken by the Cleansing Committee, and I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following figures.

Number of movable Ashbins.....	13,100
Number of dry Ashpits (excluding middens)...	3,703
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Ashbins emptied.....	652,946
Ashpits emptied.....	200
Refuse dealt with at Destructor.....	578 tons
Refuse delivered to tips.....	10,729 tons

Dry house refuse is collected by horsedrawn containers (Pagefield System), and refuse from earth closets and privies by motor wagon. Dry house refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and the refuse from privies by incineration. Cesspools are cleansed by motor gully emptier, and their contents distributed on farm land.

6.—SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

(a) Summary of Inspections.

In connection with Infectious Diseases					(a) Primary	...	213
					(b) Re-visits	...	125
Slaughter-houses	...	..	...	...	...	874	
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	46	
Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	24	
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	..	39	
Common Lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Houses let in lodgings	.	...	...	...	...	48	
Vans and Tents	...	...	...	...	...	53	
Offensive Trades	...	..	...	...	...	2	
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	16	
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	8	

Schools	...	...	...	...	...	33
Ice Cream Makers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	65
Houses inspected—						
(a) For Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1016
(b) Under Housing Acts [excluding (a)]	...	...	...	...	...	142
Re-visits (a) For Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	725
,, (b) Under Housing Acts [excluding (a)]	...	...	...	...	...	1734
Visits for other causes	...	...	...	...	...	869
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	423

(b) Defects or Nuisances found.

Defective House Drains	...	...	...	...	90
,, Gullies	...	...	...	...	48
,, Sink Pipes	...	...	...	...	39
,, Sinks	...	...	...	...	31
,, Water Closets	...	...	...	...	116
,, Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	175
,, Ashbins	...	...	...	...	32
,, Spouting & R.W.P.s	...	...	...	...	49
,, Roofs	...	...	...	...	129
,, Pavements, Channelling and Yards	...	...	...	...	45
Filthy and Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	32
Damp Houses	...	...	...	...	38
Insufficient Ventilation	...	...	...	...	7
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	454

(c) Notices Served.

(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	564
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	117

(d) Result.

Number of Defects dealt with	...	...	...	3770
,, ,, abated after statutory notice	...	...	...	216
,, ,, ,, informal notice	...	...	...	6433

7.—SHOPS.

The Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed Inspectors for the purposes of the Shops Acts 1912—1934. The additional duties imposed are heavy and it has not yet been possible to complete the survey of all shops in the borough. During the year 1935, 30 primary inspections

and reinspections were made and as a result in 6 cases, notices were served to provide additional ventilation, in 2 cases notices were served to provide suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences. At the end of the year all the notices had been complied with. Two exemptions have been granted, in one case from the provision of sanitary accommodation, and in the other case from the provision of both sanitary accommodation and washing facilities.

8.—SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year much attention has been focussed on the emission from a suspected colliery chimney of large amounts of grit. Records of grit deposit over a long period showed a heavy fall round the offending chimney, and a special directional deposit gauge was erected near the chimney. This conclusively showed the origin of the nuisance.

Consultations with the company eventually resulted in the installation by the Company of grit catching apparatus, and the nuisance arising from the grit no longer exists.

There are approximately forty-seven factory and works chimneys in the area, and during the year 100 observations have been made of these. Each observation was of half an hour's duration.

According to a local bye-law the emission of black Smoke from a chimney other than that of a dwelling-house for a period of more than 2 minutes in the aggregate within any continuous half hour is deemed to be a nuisance.

On 59 occasions chimneys were observed to emit smoke of such a character and density and during such a period, as to be a nuisance. In all these instances informal notices were sent to the offenders. Subsequent observations of the offending chimneys generally showed an improvement in the density and duration of smoke production.

9.—SWIMMING BATHS.

The Corporation own the only Swimming Baths in the area. There are two pools. The installation of an aeration, filtration, and chlorination plant for the small plunge bath is contemplated, in addition to the plant already in existence. Recent bacteriological examination of the water proved it to be satisfactory.

10.—SCHOOLS.

The following notes, on the sanitary condition of the elementary schools in the Borough are taken from my Annual Report as School Medical Officer. It seems desirable to reproduce them here.

Slowly but surely there is improvement being made in the condition of the schools, but much still remains to be done. During the year under review two schools have undergone alteration.

It is gratifying to record that the communal roller towel is fast disappearing from the schools and its place being taken by separate small towels for each scholar or by paper towels or handkerchiefs. The provision of toilet paper seems to be neglected in a few of the schools. Drinking fountains are gradually taking the place of the common drinking cup.

The existence of playgrounds with unpaved surfaces has been commented on in previous reports, and their unhygienic aspect stressed. On a dry windy day physical training in an ashed playground does more harm than good on account of the dust raised, and in wet weather the mud renders it impossible.

The lack of adequate staff-room accommodation is marked, and the sanitary accommodation and washing facilities provided for the staff are often insufficient or lacking altogether.

It is pleasing to note that increased use of playgrounds and playing-fields is being made for the purpose of lessons in the open air and this should be encouraged whenever possible.

It is regrettable that several schools have still the trough closet system, and it is desirable in the interests of hygiene that these should be replaced by pedestal closets of the independently flushed type. Urinals sometimes depend for flushing on the efforts of the caretaker and a bucket of water. An automatic flushing arrangement is eminently desirable.

The following is a series of brief notes on the hygienic condition of the schools in the borough.

Leigh C.E.

The classrooms in the Infant School are capable of immediate conversion to the open-air type, and all that can be desired. The infant boys' urinal, however, is not automatically flushed, and the chains of the Water Closet cisterns require lengthening so that they can be reached by the smaller children.

In the Junior and Senior Departments there are likewise no automatic flushing arrangements for the boys' urinals. In both departments the number of towels for boys and girls was absolutely inadequate.

St. John's C.E.

The school is lacking in adequate sanitary accommodation for the staff and two more washbowls are necessary for the children. There is no staff room. The flagged floor of the boys' urinal should be replaced by an impervious concrete floor.

Bedford C.E. Junior

The sanitary accommodation and washing facilities have been vastly improved and are now satisfactory except for the fact that there is no flushing apparatus for the urinals. In the Junior School the classroom occupied by Standard I has gratings in the floor allowing direct communication with the boiler room immediately below. The room gets very warm and the ventilation is inadequate.

In the Infants' department additional hopper inlets are required in each class room. There is no staff room. The pointing of the walls of the building is defective in parts.

Butts C.E. Junior.

The ventilation of the classrooms leaves much to be desired, and an improvement could be effected by the provision of hopper inlet windows, at the bases of the existing windows. There are insufficient pegs in the boys' cloakroom and only one washbowl is provided for the boys, whereas four at least are necessary. The urinal stalls, of rough hewn stone slabs, are unhygienic and there is no flushing apparatus. The girls' closet accommodation is insufficient, several more closets being necessary. There is insufficient cloakroom accommodation in the infants' department and insufficient washbowls. The closet accommodation for teachers, infant boys, and junior and infant girls, and the infant boys' urinal are housed in the same building. This is very undesirable and contrary to the requirements of the Board of Education.

St. Peter's C.E. Junior.

It is gratifying to note that the major portion of the girls' playground is now paved, but of the boys' playground the same cannot be said. Trough closets unfortunately still remain. There is no staff room. More washbowls are necessary in the infants' department. Some of the floors are showing signs of wear.

Westleigh C.E. Junior.

The alterations to both departments of this school have enormously improved it from the health aspect. The provision of increased sanitary and cloakroom accommodation and washing facilities, the additional lighting and means of ventilation of the classrooms, and the provision of staff rooms, have all served to convert a poorly equipped building into something resembling a modern school. It is gratifying indeed to note the provision of an open-air classroom in the infants' department, and it is hoped the example thus set will be better than precept.

Pennington C.E. Junior.

The playgrounds are mostly unpaved. The provision and use of additional hopper inlets in some of the rooms would considerably improve the ventilation. Several of the floors are worn and defective. Hat pegs in the infants' cloakroom are too close, many beyond reach, and directly one above another. The water closet accommodation is of the trough variety and hygienically undesirable. The infant boys' urinal has no flushing apparatus and that of the junior boys' has been partly demolished in the erection of a new boundary wall on neighbouring premises. This is a matter which requires instant attention. General repairs to the fabric of the building are necessary.

Pennington C.E. Mission

The railings surrounding the playground are in a defective and dilapidated condition and the playground is unpaved. The floors of the classrooms are in poor condition and the windows do not allow sufficient ventilation. Additional hopper inlets are necessary and the side shields to the existing hoppers should be repaired. The W.C. building requires repair and pointing, and the trough closets, one of which is defective, should be replaced by individually flushed pedestals. The windows of the school require more frequent cleaning.

St. Joseph's R.C.

In the boys' school six of the classrooms require additional hopper inlets to provide adequate ventilation. The partition between two of the classrooms does not reach to the ceiling. Cloakroom accommodation is insufficient and not enough washbowls are provided. One common towel is used by two hundred and twenty boys. The urinal is not effectively screened and the closets are on the infamous trough system, and in a foul condition. Redecoration of the rooms is urgently required. The building requires pointing and portions of the outside woodwork are dilapidated and dangerous. There is no staff room.

In the girls' school a staff room and offices are provided. The cloakroom near the entrance gate is unsuitable. Further conversion of the closets to the separately flushed type is very desirable. Additional hopper inlets are necessary in several of the classrooms, and most of the classroom floors require attention. Some of the brickwork is defective, and pointing is very necessary.

In the infants' department additional pegs are necessary in the cloakroom. The existing pegs are too close and the bottom row is too near the floor. Additional washbowls should be provided. Here also trough closets and automatically flushed pedestal closets require conversion. The number for girls is also insufficient. There is no staff room.

Plank Lane R.C.

Some much needed improvements have been brought about in this school. A new heating apparatus has been installed, and a staff room with sanitary and washing accommodation provided. Unfortunately the closet compartment opens off the staff room. Further improvements which are very desirable are the conversion of the remaining trough closets, the paving of the playground, and the pointing of the brickwork. The present girls' cloakroom is quite unsuitable.

In the infants' department there are two classes in one room, separation being achieved by means of a 5-ft. partition. This must surely involve much strain on staff and scholars. The floor of the infants' cloakroom has a defective joist and is dangerous.

XII Apostles' R.C.

The improvements completed during the year have enhanced the school property enormously. The paving of the playground, the erection of new offices and the improved cloakroom accommodation were all necessary. It is unfortunate that the boys' urinals have not had an automatic flushing arrangement installed, and that the slow combustion stoves have not been replaced by more modern and more efficient heating arrangements. No towels are provided.

King Street Methodist Junior.

In both departments additional hopper inlets are a necessity in most classrooms. The treads of the staircases in the Junior School are worn, and the classroom floors in several places require renewal. The closets are on the trough system and none of them have doors. The flushing of the urinal is not automatic.

Bedford Methodist Junior.

Trough closets and lack of urinal flushing apparatus are likewise in evidence at this school. In the infants' department the present window opening area in the babies' classroom provides insufficient means of ventilation and additional hopper inlets are desirable. The infants' urinal is in the same block as the girls' closets, and the pointing is defective.

Butts Methodist.

Trough closets exist in this school and should be superseded. The number of closets is insufficient and the offices for boys and girls are in a common block, which also houses a washbowl and sink, the only drinking water supply in the school. The urinal is unflushed. Doors to the closets are lacking. There are no efficient air inlets in the classrooms. Some of the coat pegs are too high and directly one above another.

Westleigh Methodist Junior.

The faults in this school are that the major portion of the boys' playground is still unpaved, the floors of some of the classrooms are worn and defective, the ventilation insufficient, and the w.c. opens directly off the ladies' staff room.

Plank Lane Methodist Junior.

This school is defective in many respects. The playground is unpaved. In two of the rooms the floors are worn and defective. Some of the walls are damp and unplastered. Closets are of the trough pattern, one with no door. The urinal is unflushed, its cement rendering is defective, and the brickwork of the offices is in much need of pointing. The pegs in the junior cloakroom are much too close together and many are broken. The infants' cloakroom has inadequate lighting, ventilation and washbowls, and the roof is defective. There is no staff room.

Sacred Heart R.C.

Most of the floors of the ground floor classrooms require attention. Fixed hoppers at the bases of the sash windows would ensure adequate ventilation without draught. In two cases two classes share one large room, separation by means of a five feet partition being all that exists. These rooms are easily capable of division into two classrooms. The two staffrooms, the one for the mixed school and the other for the Infants' Department, both have closets which open directly off the Staff room. This is undesirable and could easily be altered to make the Water Closet compartments open into the passages. The ceiling and walls of the girls' staircase require a certain amount of replastering and entire redecoration. Additional washbowls are required in the girls' cloakroom, and one clean roller towel per week is absolutely inadequate. The trough closets, themselves a relic of early sanitary days, were dirty and the urinal foul at the time of inspection. There are no doors to the boys' closets. The doors at the school end of each range of closets should be bricked up, and a proper gully should be provided.

It is suggested that a part time caretaker for this school is insufficient.

Central Council Senior Girls'.

Some of the walls internally show signs of dampness. Additional means of ventilation by means of low placed hopper inlets would be an improvement.

Windermere Road Council Infants'.

The gable wall requires pointing and the staff rooms are in urgent need of redecoration. The above remark regarding fixed hoppers applies.

Manchester Road Council Senior School.

This school is practically all that modern requirements could desire in a teaching institution. The drying rooms for clothes have heating but no pegs or other methods of hanging the clothes.

Westleigh Council Senior School.

It is pleasing to note that the playing field is used for ordinary classes in the open air when weather permits.

Central Council Senior Boys' School.

This school was inspected but since its use as such is to be discontinued it is not proposed to make any comments on it.

1.—RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The Annual Report of the Rat Officer for the year under review shows that 178 visits were paid to infested premises and a total of 1,199 rats destroyed. The services of three expert rat catchers are available to the public, the Council providing each with two dog licences, three ferrets and the requisite netting.

National Rat Week (November 4th to 9th) was utilized in an endeavour to emphasize the responsibility of the public and to disseminate information regarding measures for rat destruction and the protection of buildings from these pests. Articles in the local press, posters, and pamphlets were all employed in the effort. Pamphlets with accompanying circular letters were sent to farmers, occupiers of bakehouses, factories, and premises which by reason of the trade carried on were likely to encourage or harbour rats and mice.

12.—CANAL BOATS.

The number of boats on the register at the end of the year, which could reasonably be believed to be in use, or available for use, was 110. Sixty-five boats were inspected during the year, and there were three infringements of the Canal Boats Acts, and the regulations thereunder. The contraventions were immediately remedied on the owners attention being called to them.

13.—FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. (Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories..... (Including Factory Laundries).	27	11	Nil
Workshops..... (Includ. Workshop Laundries).	19	1	Nil
Workplaces..... (Other than Outworkers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	46	12	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remed'd (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness.....	10	10	—	—
Want of ventilation.....	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding.....	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances.....	4	4	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient.....	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable & defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes..	—	—	—	—
Other Offences.....	1	1	—	—
Total.....	16	16	—	—

14.—PRIVATE AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Name of Act.	Date of Adoption.
Leigh Corporation Act	... September, 1903
Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1879	... In or about 1879
Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889...	27th November, 1889
Private Street Works Act, 1892	... 30th July, 1895
Libraries Act, 1892	... 27th September, 1892
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 :	
Parts II. and III.	... 26th April, 1892
Parts IV. and V.	... 9th November, 1900
Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890 :	
Part III.	... 11th March, 1902
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 ..	14th October, 1902
Museum and Gymnasiums Act, 1891	... 11th March, 1902
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 :	<div>By Order of the Local Government Board, dated 1st May, 1913, which Order repealed the following Sections of the Leigh Corporation Act, 1903 : Sections, 151, 167 (so far as relates to Sec. 34 of the Act of 1907), 210, 211 and 212.</div>
Part II., Sections 22, 30 and 33	
Part III., Sections 34, 36, 37, 49 and 51	
Part IV., Sections 55, 56, 63, 64 and 65	
Part V. (whole)	
Part X. (whole)	
Leigh Corporation Act, 1920	...
Public Health Act, 1925 :	
Part II., III., IV., V.	... 19th April, 1926
Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926	... 16th May, 1927

15.—BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

	Date when made by Council.	Approved by Government Department.
Prohibition of Book-making, Betting or Wagering in Public Places	...16th Oct. 1900 ...	—
Compulsory Lighting of Vehicles	...13th Mar. 1900...	3rd May 1900
Prevention of Danger from Telegraph Wires, &c.	...12th Mar. 1901...	7th Oct. 1901
Markets	...30th Aug. 1901..	15th Oct. 1901
Omnibuses	...10th Sept. 1901...	26th Oct. 1901
Management, Use and Regulation of the Public Baths	...10th Sept. 1901..	29th Oct. 1901
Drainage of Existing Buildings	... 8th April 1902...	31st May 1902
New Streets and Buildings	..11th Aug. 1925 ..	3rd Nov. 1925
Slaughter-houses	...14th Oct. 1902 ...	29th Nov. 1902
Offensive Trades	...14th Oct. 1902 ...	29th Nov. 1902
Common Lodging-houses	. 14th Oct 1902 ..	29th Nov. 1902
Nuisances	... 9th Nov. 1903...	2nd Jan. 1904
Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar Structures used for Human Habi- tation in the Borough of Leigh	...13th Oct. 1908 ...	23rd Dec. 1908
Provision of Means of Escape in case of Fire in certain Factories and Workshops in the Borough of Leigh	... 8th June 1909 ...	2nd July 1909
For the Good Rule and Government of the Borough of Leigh and for the Prevention of Nuisances	...11th May 1909 ...	—
Rear Lights on Vehicles	.. 8th Oct. 1912 ...	28th Nov. 1912
For Regulating the Employment of Children	...10th Aug. 1920 ..	22nd Jan. 1921
Regulations as to Internal Water Fittings, Service Pipes, &c.	...March 1907 ...	—
Regulating the Travelling and Pre- vention of Nuisances in Motor Omnibuses	...13th June 1922 ...	23rd Aug. 1922
Pleasure Grounds	...12th Dec. 1922 ...	7th Feb. 1923
Smoke Abatement	..29th Oct. 1929 ...	19th Dec. 1929
Nursing Homes	..29th Oct. 1929 ...	19th Dec. 1929
Houses let in lodgings	...11th April 1933 ...	1st June 1933

SECTION D.

HOUSING

HOUSING.

No of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers separately under (b))	...	520
(i) By Local Authority	... ..	260
(ii) By other Local Authorities	.. ...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	... ..	260
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—		
(i) By Local Authority	... ..	200
(ii) By other bodies or persons	.. ..	—

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	1453
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	5482
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	.. . . .	142
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	861
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	127
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	706

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	755
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under Section 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices		
(a) by Owners	... ..	1
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	117
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—		
(a) by Owners	.. ...	93
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	..	1

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	Ni
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	Nil

General Remarks.

Housing activities during the year can be placed in four categories :

- (a) Representations of Areas and confirmation of Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders in respect of 128 houses comprising 24 areas (1 house excluded by Minister).
- (b) Building of 260 houses by the Corporation and an identical number by private enterprise.
- (c) The complete reconditioning of 308 houses.
- (d) The overcrowding survey.

(a) Representation was made to the Council in respect of 128 houses comprising 24 areas. Clearance Orders and Compulsory Purchase Orders were made and confirmed by the Minister of Health after a Public Inquiry in respect of approximately half the number of houses. A list of the areas is given overleaf.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Houses comprising Area.</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>Persons displaced</i>
Brideoake Street.....	5 and 7 Brideoake Street.....	2	9
Brunswick St. (No. 2).....	15, 17, 19 Brunswick St.....	3	13
Chapmans Row.....	4, 6, 8 Chapmans Row.....	4	24
	3 Wards Place.		
China Court.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, China Court.....	5	21
Doctors Nook.....	13, 15, 17 Doctors Nook.....	3	9
Gas Street.....	9, 11 Gas Street.....	2	7
John Street.....	12, 14 John Street.....	3	8
	1 Stringers Yard.....		
Jones' Square (No. 2).....	67, 69/71 King Street.....	5	15
	4, 6, 8 Jones' Square.....		
Leigh Road (No. 2).....	3 Sun Yard.....	3	7
	15a, 17a Leigh Road.....		
Leigh Road (No. 3).....	25a, 27a Leigh Road.....	2	6
Morts Court.....	1, 2, 3, 4, Morts Court.....	4	14
Pepper Alley.....	4, 5, 6 Pepper Alley.....	3	13
St. Helens Road (No. 1).....	3 off, 5 off St. Helens Road....	2	7
St. Helens Rd. (No. 2).....	2, 3, 4 Ainscoughs Court.....	9	25
	22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 St. Helens Road		
St. Helens Road (No. 4).....	13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 St.....	6	13
	Helens Road.....		
Trafalgar Street (No. 3).....	31, 33, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 52a Trafalgar Street.....	8	32
Trafalgar Street (No. 4).....	30, 32 Trafalgar Street.....	2	7
Welch Hill St. (No. 1).....	1, 2, 3, No. 1 Court, Welch Hill Street.....	5	19
	6, 8 Welch Hill Street.....		
Welch Hill St. (No. 2).....	12, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 Welch Hill Street.....	13	60
	8, 8a, 9, 10, 11 No. 2 Court, Welch Hill Street.....		
	6, 7, No. 1 Court, Welch Hill Street.....		
Garden Place.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Garden Place.....	8	33
Aspull Common.....	21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39 Aspull Common.....	10	50
†Church Passage.....	4, 5, Church Passage.....	2	5
†Back Salford.....	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 Back Salford.....	14	61

<i>Area.</i>	<i>Houses comprising Area.</i>	<i>No. of houses.</i>	<i>Persons dis- placed</i>
†St. Helens Rd. (No. 3)...8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 St. Helens Road.....		9	43
2, 4, 6 Diamond Street.....			
	TOTALS	127	519

† These areas were the subject of Compulsory Purchase Orders.

The following table shows the progress made by the Council under the Housing Act, 1930 up to 31st December, 1935.

Number of houses demolished :—

Pre-programme.....	167	
On schedule.....188		
Added to schedule and now demolished.....37		225
Voluntarily demolished (on original schedule).....10		10
		402
Number of houses originally scheduled..... 445		
Number of houses added to schedule and since demolished..... 37		Total 482
Number of above reconditioned by owners.... 41		
Number of above for which undertakings not to use for human habitation have been given..... 4		Total 46
Number of above to be demolished voluntarily 1		
Number of houses on original schedule still to be demolished.....	201	
Number of houses provisionally added to schedule and not yet demolished.....n.....	138	
Total yet to be dealt with	339	

Progress of demolition.

<i>Pre-programme</i>	<i>No. of houses demolished.</i>			
1932	92
1933	75
				167

Programme	No. of houses to be dealt with as per programme				No. of houses actually dealt with	
	1934	....	93	....	....	98
	1935	....	86	....	....	127
			<hr/>			<hr/>
			179			225
			<hr/>			<hr/>

Number of houses in advance of programme.....46

(b) *Building of Houses.*

During the year the Corporation completed the erection of 260 houses and had 153 more in course of erection. Of the total number 242 were allotted for the rehousing of tenants displaced from Clearance Areas.

Many parts of the borough are subject to mining subsidence, and consequently sites for building have sometimes to be rejected on that account.

(c) *Re-conditioning.*

The re-conditioning of unfit houses by informal action proceeds although its supervision is necessarily limited during those periods of intensive activity which precede an official representation or an inquiry.

Since the inception of the scheme for securing the reconditioning of houses by informal action no fewer than 881 houses have been inspected and the findings of such inspections recorded in detail.

After inspection, a separate schedule of works necessary is forwarded to the owner in respect of each house, together with an intimation that any proposals he may make will be considered.

Several interviews are usually necessary with the owner, his architect or the contractors. Numerous inspections are made during the progress of the work in order to secure the complete and satisfactory carrying out of the requirements. A final inspection is invariably made.

Apart from houses which are considered incapable of being made fit, *i.e.*, those scheduled for demolition, it has been the aim of the department to deal primarily with those houses which have stood in most need of complete reconditioning.

The following table shows the position to date with regard to the 881 houses under review :—

Negotiations opened.....	52
Negotiations continued.....	38
Proposals accepted but work not commenced.....	24
Proposals accepted, work given out but not commenced	17
Work in progress (various stages).....	204
Transferred for future action under Sections 1, 17, or 19 Housing Act, 1930.....	158
Undertakings not to let for human habitation.....	11
Work completed.....	377
(During 1935-308)	—
	881

(d) *The Overcrowding Survey.*

The preliminary enumeration was commenced at the beginning of December, 1935, and was completed before the end of the year. Fifteen temporary enumerators were employed, and a code of instructions drawn up for their use. The subsequent measurement of the room areas was done by the inspectorial staff. Measurements of rooms were made in 848 houses. In Leigh the survey was not entirely confined to dwellinghouses as defined by the Act, *i.e.*, premises used by members of the working classes or of a type suitable for such use. The number of houses outside of this category is very small and it was considered that the additional statistics furnished by their inclusion in the enumeration would more than outweigh the trouble to exclude them. The figures given, therefore, are for all the houses in the Borough at the time of the survey, and it will be readily understood how this fact will make them more comparable with those of other areas.

It must also be remembered that since the survey was commenced early in December, 1935, some new houses, both Corporation and other, have been completed and occupied.

The following table summarises the particulars for each ward separately. The percentage of overcrowded houses is calculated on the total number of houses in the ward including those empty at the time of survey.

The returns show that 457 families (3.82 per cent.) are overcrowded, and that 11,434 families (96.18 per cent.) are not overcrowded. Of the uncrowded families it is significant to note that 455 (3.80 per cent.) occupy houses of the minimum size for the size of the family. Of the families living in Corporation houses 59 (3.00 per cent.) are overcrowded.

	<i>Over- crowded</i>	<i>Not over- crowded</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Empties</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>Per- centage</i>
St. Paul's.....	122	1855	1977	5	1982	6.15
St. Mary's.....	84	2499	2583	16	2599	3.23
Lilford.....	21	1272	1293	22	1315	1.59
St. Thomas's.....	38	1282	1320	4	1324	2.87
St. Joseph's.....	46	1112	1158	8	1166	3.94
Hope Carr.....	48	1615	1663	8	1671	2.87
Etherstone.....	43	1021	1064	4	1068	4.02
St. Peter's.....	55	778	833	—	833	6.60
Totals.....	457	11434	11891	67	11958	3.82
Corporation Houses	59	1900	1959	3	1962	3.00

It will be observed that the Westleigh Area notably St. Paul's and St. Peter's Wards are by far the most overcrowded parts of the town.

Disinfestation.

Since the disinfestation of the furniture and effects of tenants displaced from Clearance Areas was first introduced by the Corporation, much work has been done towards ensuring that the people do not take with them to their new houses any bugs or their eggs. Similarly, the treatment of Corporation property has been undertaken where this was considered necessary.

The members of the sanitary staff are endeavouring to show that the suppression of these insect pests is a necessary accompaniment of the higher standard of housing conditions which is undoubtedly being gradually brought about.

The Public Health Department Staff has been experimenting with several preparations and none has so far yielded perfect results, although certain combinations of different methods and preparations seem to achieve a greater degree of success than any one preparation used alone.

Up to the present the method of treatment used to prevent the transference of vermin from bug-infested houses to new re-housing areas, has been the spraying of furniture, pictures, etc., and these, prior to spraying, are dismantled so far as practicable, and as far as will allow reasonable access for spraying. Bedding and apparel are treated in the steam sterilizer.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION
AND
SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1.—Milk Supply.—Farms and dairies in the borough area are inspected as frequently as possible, samples are taken regularly for cleanliness, and twenty samples for bacteriological examination were taken during the year. Milch cattle are inspected regularly by the veterinary surgeon. During the year 585 cows were inspected by him and of these 15 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

Seventeen samples of designated milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. All were satisfactory and complied with the prescribed conditions.

Two samples of mixed milk were examined for bacterial count, and for bacillus coli, and were found to be quite satisfactory.

One sample of milk was submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli, but the result was negative.

Forty-six visits to farms and dairies were made during the year by the sanitary inspectors.

The number of distributors of designated milk was as follows :

Certified.....	1
Grade A (Tuberculin Tested).....	4
Grade A.....	9
Pasteurised.....	6

The number of cowkeepers on the register at 31st December was 61, and the number of retail purveyors of milk, 179.

Improvements to farms and dairies supervised during the year, include improved lighting and ventilation, erection of a new dairy, and the abolition of a cesspool.

2.—Meat and other Foods.—The slaughter-houses are visited regularly following notice of intention to slaughter and at irregular times. Eight hundred and seventy four visits were made, and the following number of carcasses inspected :—Cattle, 2,963 ; Sheep, 6,219 ; Pigs, 8905 ; calves 15 ; Total, 18,102 carcasses.

The shops, stalls and vehicles are also kept under constant observation.

There is a general inclination to comply with the Meat Regulations.

There is no public slaughter-house.

Private slaughter-houses : Registered 11 ; Licensed 6 ; Total 17

The following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered, condemned and destroyed :—

Beef	...	...	...	31,670 lbs.
Pork	...	...	...	8535 „
Mutton	...	...	...	448 „

Unsound Food Clauses — Public Health Act, 1875 — Sections 116 to 119

During an inspection of a butcher's shop on the 23rd July, 1935, a piece of unsound meat was found and seized by one of the Sanitary Inspectors.

It was later condemned by a magistrate and destroyed.

A successful prosecution was undertaken, on 8th August, 1935, and the defendants were fined the sum of 40/-.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act came into force on the 1st January, 1934.

All animals slaughtered in the Borough, with the exception of sheep, are slaughtered by means of mechanically operated instruments as prescribed by the Act. So far the results have been satisfactory.

It should be noted that, by resolution of the Council, Section I of the Act — relating to instantaneous slaughtering and stunning — does not apply to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs and consequently these animals are exempt from the application of that Section.

Section 3 prohibits the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen. The slaughtermen in the Borough are licensed for a period of 2 years. They carry out their work in a careful and expeditious manner.

It has not been found necessary to take action for any contravention of the requirements of the Act.

Bakehouses.

During the year 39 inspections were made of the various bakehouses in the Borough, as a result of which 7 notices were served for the remedying of the following defects.

Dirty walls, floors and ceilings.....	5
Defective condition of ceiling.....	1
Defective floors, sink and spouting.....	1

The requirements of the notices were complied with.

3.—Adulteration.

The Lancashire County Council administer the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and samples for analysis are taken by the County Police

The Local Police Superintendent reports that during 1935 the following samples were taken in the area and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination :—

Milk.....	93		
Boracic Acid.....	1	Margarine.....	2
Boracic ointment.....	1	Marmalade.....	1
Baking Powder.....	1	Oatmeal.....	1
Beef (Tinned).....	2	Pickles.....	3
Butter.....	2	Peas (Tinned).....	1
Coffee.....	3	Quinine, Amm. Tinct. of	1
Custard Powder.....	1	Rice.....	2
Cocoa.....	1	Salmon (Tinned).....	1
Cheese.....	5	Spice (Mixed).....	1
Cornflour.....	2	Sago.....	1
Cinnamon.....	1	Syrup.....	1
Epsom Salts.....	1	Suet (Shredded).....	2
Fruit (Tinned).....	3	Sugar.....	2
Flour (S.R.).....	2	Soda Bicarb.....	1
Ground Rice.....	1	Tea.....	2
Ground Almonds.....	1	Turpentine.....	1
Jam.....	3	Treacle.....	1
Lard.....	3	Zinc Ointment.....	1
Meat Paste.....	1		
Total.....	156		

There have been no prosecutions during the year.

4.—Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Chemical analysis is carried out by the Public Analyst. Bacteriological analysis is carried out by :—

(1) Evans' Biological Institute, Runcorn.

(2) Public Health Laboratory of the Manchester University.

5.—Nutrition.

The existence of malnutrition among school children has engaged the attention of the Medical Officers, and, at every examination, whether routine or special, of every child an assessment of the nutrition is made, and a record kept.

During the month of February, 1935, a rapid survey was made of the nutrition of the children in the elementary schools. The assistance of the Head Teachers was invoked and they were asked to prepare lists of those children whom they considered to be undernourished. In this way 286 children were listed and these were examined by the Medical Officers. Of these 71 were found to be undernourished, 59 being in category C (slightly subnormal) and 12 in category D (bad). The primary selection by the Head Teachers was adopted as a means of rapidly selecting the children who were probably the undernourished ones. Since it does not involve clinical examination, but is based chiefly on appearance it must of necessity omit some cases which clinical examination by a medical man would reveal. However, it serves the purpose of quickly achieving a knowledge of the worst cases of malnutrition. The services rendered by the Head Teachers and the interest shown were much appreciated by the Medical Staff.

At the request of the Board of Education the returns relating to malnutrition in the routine age groups are now given in such tabular form that uniformity will be assured and the findings of one area will be comparable with those of another.

Routine Nutrition Inspections.

Age-groups.	Number of children inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly sub-normal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants.....	622	1	.16	608	97.75	13	2.09	—	—
Second age-group....	624	1	.16	602	96.48	21	3.36	—	—
Third age-group....	471	—	—	457	97.0	14	3	—	—
Other routine Inspections..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	1,717	2	.11	1667	97.1	48	2.79	—	—

The above table reveals the fact that 48 children or 2.79 per cent. of those examined showed signs of subnormal nutrition. No children were included in category D. Comparison with 1934 figures is possible although the classification then was somewhat different. However if the number of children who, in 1934, showed evidence of malnutrition requiring treatment, and those who showed signs of malnutrition requiring observation are taken a percentage of 1.75 is obtained.

The figures for 1935 therefore show an increase of approximately 1 per cent. on those of 1934. Further enquiries into these cases and into the economic circumstances of the families from which these children came, revealed that in many of them there was insufficient money after the payment of rent to adequately feed the family. Instances of one meat meal per week were met with. On the whole the subnormal nutrition evinced by the children was due to the family income being insufficient to ensure a minimum diet.

Facilities for the remedy of malnutrition exist and a case coming under notice is recommended for breakfasts and dinners provided by the Education Committee, milk provided free or at part cost, or some cod-liver oil preparation. Occasionally if there is evidence of rickets, artificial sunlight treatment is prescribed as well. Head Teachers, School Nurses and School Attendance Officers are encouraged to refer for examination at the Inspection Clinic any case or suspected case of undernourishment coming to their notice.

The Board of Education in Circular 1443 suggests that supplementary nourishment should be provided for any child who shows symptoms, whether educational or physical, of undernourishment however slight. This expression of the Board's opinion seems to point in the direction of an envisagement of the problem from the preventive aspect and is very welcome. If the family income falls below a certain figure surely then is the time to commence providing meals, and not to wait until signs of malnutrition are evident. The problem, in my opinion, is almost entirely a social one.

It will be observed from figures of the Pre-natal clinics that ten out of 83 expectant mothers who attended Stone House clinic were found to be suffering from malnutrition, although none of those attending the Maternity Home clinic were found to be so.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND
CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES.

1.—INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES (Excluding Tuberculosis)

The number of cases of infectious disease notified in 1935 was three hundred and forty-five compared with two hundred and thirty-one for the year 1934, and two hundred and forty-three for 1933.

This increase in the incidence of these diseases, specially marked in the cases of Diphtheria and Pneumonia, is partly a result of the severe weather experienced towards the end of the year. The following table summarises the incidence of the principal notifiable diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis).

	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>	<i>No. of cases removed to Hospital</i>	<i>No. of deaths in Hospital</i>
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria.....	74	5	74	5
Erysipelas.....	22	—	10	2
Scarlet Fever.....	151	2	106	1
Enteric Fever.....	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Fever.....	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	6	—	6	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	8	—	—	—
Pneumonia.....	80	51	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	1	—	—	—

Diphtheria.

The number of cases of diphtheria is almost double that of 1934.

During the month 17th January to 16th February, six cases occurred in Pennington C.E. School. The outbreak terminated abruptly on the discovery of a case in class.

During the last seven weeks of the year twenty-seven cases of diphtheria arose in the children attending St. Peter's C.E. School, and the usual difficulty was met with in trying to trace the source of infection.

It was not considered desirable to close the school.

The constant watch over children at school by frequent visits of School Medical Officers and nurses put a check on the outbreak.

Several of the cases seen by the Medical Officers were of a severe, and almost fulminating type. It is to be regretted that there were five deaths from diphtheria during the year, four of them in school children.

The case mortality for Diphtheria was 6.7%. This is high and suggests that the disease was of a severe type.

A clinic for the immunization of children against diphtheria was begun in October, and up to the end of the year 165 cases were inoculated. The single injection method using Alum Precipitated Toxoid was adopted. Up to the end of the year no Schick testing after inoculation had been done. Pamphlets have been issued to parents explaining the procedure.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified was 151 compared with 103 for 1934, and 55 for 1933.

Forty-five cases were nursed at home and the remainder were nursed at the Astley Sanatorium, where one death occurred from this disease in a patient from the area.

There are no facilities in the borough for immunization against Scarlatina.

Pneumonia.

With regard to the increased prevalence of pneumonia, it must be pointed out that no facilities exist at present for the adequate hospital nursing of these cases.

It is hoped, however, that the enlargement of, and extensions to Astley Sanatorium, may afford these very desirable facilities.

Hospital provision for complicated cases of measles and whooping, cough is likewise necessary.

The Infectious Hospital is controlled by the Leigh Joint Hospital Board.

The average length of the patients' stay in hospital has certainly not been shortened.

Diphtheria patients are almost invariably sent into Hospital.

Information of the presence of non-notifiable infectious diseases is very scant. A few cases of illness were notified by the parents, but the majority were ascertained through the Teachers, School Attendance Officers and Health Nurses.

As far as possible each case was visited by a Health Nurse at least once to impress on the parents the importance of medical attention. When infectious cases are prevalent the Head Teacher of each School makes a daily return of children absent from School on account of illness supposed to be infectious. This practice is found to be of great service, particularly in the case of non-notifiable infectious diseases.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and swabs are supplied by the Local Authority and special arrangements are made to facilitate the distribution to medical practitioners so that they may always have in their possession at least one swab and a preliminary dose of serum for immediate use. They are urged to administer an early application even to doubtful cases of the disease.

Schultz-Charlton outfits are available at the Public Health Department for practitioners who desire their assistance in arriving at a diagnosis of Scarlet Fever.

The majority of the cases of Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia are notified.

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Disease notified, Number of Deaths from these Diseases, Number of Cases removed to Hospital, and Deaths in Hospital during the year 1935.

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED														HOSPITAL		
	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district	
Smallpox ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	74	1	2	2	2	3	43	9	3	6	1	2	—	5	74	5	
Erysipelas ...	22	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	12	3	—	10	2	
Scarlet Fever ...	151	1	6	7	15	16	61	31	8	5	1	—	—	2	106	1	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
Puerperal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	6	2	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Primary Pneumonia	80	8	6	10	2	4	11	9	3	9	8	9	1	51	—	—	
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia }																	
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Continued Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Any other Disease notified in the District: —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	345	20	14	19	19	23	115	49	15	24	19	24	4	58	197	10	

Disinfection of premises and materials is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department. All dwelling-houses are dealt with on death, removal or convalescence of infectious patients. Other premises are frequently disinfected on request, and where necessity is apparent. The Schools are also disinfected—particularly during periods of epidemics, or the known presence of an infectious child. Private Schools are treated on request. Gaseous Formaldehyde is used for buildings, and a steam disinfecter is available for clothes, bedding, etc. Two hundred and thirty-four premises were disinfected during the year on account of the following diseases :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	125
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	11
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	67
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	28
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	2
Total					234

Steam disinfection of the following bedding was carried out :—

No. of Beds from Institutions	...	...	34
„ „ „ Clearance Areas	...	...	202
Total			236

Library books found in houses in which infectious disease is present are confiscated and either disinfected and returned to the Library or, if dirty and dilapidated, destroyed.

The following are particulars of Library books so dealt with : —

No. of Books disinfected and returned to Library...	...	...	142
No. of Books destroyed...	...	...	6
Total			148

There is no disinfecting station ; bedding and other clothing are treated in the steam disinfecter.

2.—CANCER.

The following tables give some particulars with regard to the deaths from Cancer during the year 1935 :—

Sex :— Male.....31
 Female.....23 } Total 54

Occupation :— House duties21
 Coal Miner.....10
 Outdoor Labourer..... 7
 Cotton Operative..... 5
 Miscellaneous.....11

SITE	Breast.	Liver.	Lungs.	Uterus.	Stomach	Pelvic Colon and Rectum.	Other parts of Digestive tract.	Pharynx.	Bladder and Prostate	Mouth.	Neck.	Scrotum.	Total.
Number	4	3	5	5	13	7	6	1	2	6	1	1	54

AGE.	Under 50.	50-55.	55-60.	60-65.	65-70.	70-75.	75-80.	Over 80.	Total.
Number	9	6	4	10	10	13	1	1	54

The recorded number of deaths due to cancer shows an increase for the year of 2, being 54 as against 52 for 1934, giving a crude death-rate of 1.19 per thousand compared with 1.14 for 1934.

3.—PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are nursed at home by the Health Nurses. If the Medical Attendant requests, the patient and mother are admitted into the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital under arrangements made by the Local Authority with the Hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number Notified.	CASES TREATED.		Vision Un- impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
8	8	—	8	Nil	Nil	Nil

4.—TUBERCULOSIS.

This service is under the control of the Lancashire County Council. The central dispensary of one of the county areas is situated in the town. The following statement of particulars regarding the district, was supplied by the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer :—

	Adults. 15 and over.		Children.	Total.
No. of cases admitted to Sanatoria	...	6	...	6
No. of cases admitted to Pulmonary Hospitals	21	...	—	21
No. of cases admitted to General Hospitals	7	...	6	13
No. of cases granted Skin Hospital Treatment	1	...	—	1
No. of cases granted Artificial Light Treatment	6	...	—	6
No. of cases granted X-Ray examination...	126	..	13	139
No. of cases granted Dispensary Supervision or Dispensary Treatment	...	168	29	197
No. of cases under supervision on 31st December, 1935	...	147	27	174
Pulmonary	...	82	2	84
Non-Pulmonary	...	51	24	75
Combined (Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary)	...	14	1	15
Removed from Register during the year as recovered	...	19	7	26

The County Tuberculosis Dispensary, 13 Church Street, is open each Wednesday and Friday at 10-0 a.m., and also on the second Thursday in each month at 6-30 p.m. for patients who are working. Close co-operation has been maintained between Medical Practitioners, including the School Medical Officer, who regularly sends children with suspicious symptoms, and the Tuberculosis Staff. Working in close association with the Dispensary, there is a voluntary Care Committee which meets monthly at the Dispensary for the purpose of providing clothing, nourishment, &c., for poor consumptives in order to enable them to persevere with their long course of treatment, and prevent their becoming chargeable to the Public Assistance Committee.

Artificial Light Treatment is now available for patients from this Dispensary.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1935.

NEW CASES.							DEATHS.				
Age periods.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
Years.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
0-1	...	..	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
1-5	...	...	1	0	1	0	...	0	0	0	0
5-10	...	...	0	0	1	0	...	0	0	1	0
10-15	...	...	0	0	0	1	..	0	0	0	0
15-20	...	...	0	1	0	1	...	0	2	0	0
20-25	...	...	1	3	1	0	...	0	0	0	0
25-35	...	...	6	2	2	2	...	4	5	2	0
35-45	...	...	4	3	3	0	...	2	1	0	0
45-55	..	...	0	2	1	0	..	1	0	2	0
55-65	...	...	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	..	..	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
		<hr/>		<hr/>				<hr/>		<hr/>	
		12	11	9	4	..	7	8	5	0	
Totals		..	23	13			15	5			

The ratio of non-notified deaths to total Tuberculosis death during the year was Nil.

OCCUPATION OF NOTIFIED TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

Under 5 years	...	...	1	Clerk	...	...	...	1
Scholars (5 to 14 years)	...		3	Cotton Operatives	..		...	6
Domestic	...	...	10	Bus Conductor	...		...	1
Coal Miners	...	...	7	Publican	...	...	...	1
No occupation	.	...	4	Shop Assistants	...		...	2

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

No. of Cases—	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total
(a) On Register at commencement of year..1935.....	79	54	133	66	76	142	145	130	275
(b) Notified for first time during year...	12	11	23	9	4	13	21	15	36
(c) Removed from Reg- ister during year and restored.....	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1
(d) Added to Register during the year ascertained other- wise than by noti- fication under Reg- ulations.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (a), (b), (c) and (d).....	91	65	156	75	80	156	166	146	312
(e) Cases removed from Register during year	11	11	22	17	11	28	28	22	50
(f) Cases remaining on Register at end of year..1935.....	80	54	134	58	70	128	138	124	262

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.

No employee of the milk trade was notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925—SECTION 62.

No occasion arose requiring the Section to be used.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The scheme for treatment is administered by the County Council.

There is no centre for treatment in the town, but a choice can be made from Bolton, Wigan, Manchester, Salford and Warrington, all very accessible, and fares are paid in necessitous cases.

The Public Health Department acts as an information bureau to patients and medical practitioners.

The County Council supplies outfits for the collection of specimens and examinations free of charge. Salvarsan substitutes are also supplied free to approved medical practitioners. The service provided is decidedly adequate, but patients fail to embrace the full benefit by stopping treatment prematurely. Some compulsory means to ensure full course is necessary before the expenditure entailed can be considered remunerative.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. — Section 73.

An offence under this section was brought to light, the case being that of a person distributing toys to children from a vehicle used for the collection of rags. A successful prosecution ensued.





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